

Serial No.: 09/741,632  
Group Art Unit: 2143  
Examiner: Jerry B. Dennison

**Amendment to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3 line 28, and ending on page 4 line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Other problems include the introduction of delay due to extraction and insertion of overhead into the frame structure of the second transport network. Further, current implementations are not effective for signal rates less than an Synchronous Transport Signal level 48 (STS-48) rate. This is because there are only 36 bytes of unused overhead space for these lower signal rates when a minimum of 39 bytes are needed for implementation. Therefore, it is desirable to implement a transparent transport technique that overcomes previous tunneling approaches.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, lines 13-22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIGURE 2 shows an example of encapsulating information in first frame structure 14 from first network 12 into second frame structure 18 of second network 16. First frame structure 14 is shown as a Synchronous Transport Signal level 3 (STS-3) telecommunications signal that carries three Synchronous Transport Signal level 1 (STS-1) telecommunications signals. The three STS-1 telecommunications signals are byte interleaved to form the STS-3 telecommunications signal. Payload information for first frame structure 14 is mapped into payload locations of second frame structure 18.